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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/589,897	04/20/2007	Manabu Kato	029118.58161US	3851

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EXAMINER

MANCHO, RONNIE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3664

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/589,897	Applicant(s) KATO ET AL.	
	Examiner RONNIE MANCHO	Art Unit 3664	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/2007; 8/2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adachi et al (20060062482)

Regarding claim 1, Adachi et al (figs. 1-6, 9-11, sec. 0093-0095) disclose a navigation apparatus for transmitting information of a guiding route to a navigation terminal for performing route guidance of a moving object, characterized by including:

communication means 41 for performing communication with the navigation terminal (fig. 9-11, sec. 0093-0095);

map data storing means for storing map data 32 (fig. 9-11, sec. 0093-0095);

route searching means for searching 33, using the map data, a guiding route between a departure place and a destination received from the navigation terminal through the communication means (fig. 9-11, sec. 0093-0095, 0114, 0115);

shape-simplified road map data generating means 46 (fig. 9) for generating, using the map data, shape-simplified road map data (figs. 1-6; sec 0059-0067) which includes at least the guiding route and a road intersecting the recommended route and in which a road shape of the guiding route is simplified (fig. 9-11, sec. 0093-0095, 0114, 0115);

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notice part detecting means (50 and 30, fig. 9' sec 0059-0067) for detecting as a notice part a part of the guiding route having a difference greater than a predetermined quantity between a shape of the guiding route in the map data and the shape of the guiding route in the shape-simplified road map data (figs. 1-6; sec 0059-0067);

guidance notice information generating means 46 (fig. 9) for generating, on the basis of the difference at the notice part between the map data and the shape- simplified road map data, guidance notice information to be supplied to the navigation terminal when the moving object reaches the notice part in the route guidance (figs. 1-6; sec 0059-0067); and

information delivering means 36 (fig. 9; sec 0094-0100) for transmitting delivery information including the shape-simplified road map data and the guidance notice information to the navigation terminal using the communication means (sec 0094-0100).

Although the prior art may not have recited the exact same sentences and terminologies as in the claim, it would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art that the drawings and information in the prior art are combinable to read on the claim limitations.

Regarding claim 2, Adachi et al (figs. 1-6, 9-11, sec. 0093-0095, 0096-0109) disclose the navigation apparatus for performing route guidance of a moving object, characterized by including:

map data storing means for storing map data; setting means for receiving settings of a departure place and a destination;

route searching means for searching, using the map data, a guiding route between the departure place and the destination;

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shape-simplified road map data generating means for generating, using the map data, shape-simplified road map data which includes at least the guiding route and a road intersecting the recommended route and in which a road shape of the guiding route is simplified;

notice part detecting means for detecting as a notice part a part of the guiding route having a difference greater than a predetermined quantity between a shape of the guiding route in the map data and the shape of the guiding route in the shape-simplified road map data; and guidance notice information generating means for generating, on the basis of the difference at the notice part between the map data and the shape-simplified road map data, guidance notice information to be supplied to the navigation terminal when the moving object reaches the notice part in the route guidance (sec. 0093-0095, 0096-0109).

Although the prior art may not have recited the exact same sentences and terminologies as in the claim, it would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art that the drawings and information in the prior art are combinable to read on the claim limitations.

Regarding claim 3, Adachi et al (figs. 1-6, 9-11, sec. 0093-0095, 0096-0109) disclose the navigation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the shape-simplified road map data generating means performs a process of thinning coordinate values from a coordinate value string forming the guiding route.

Regarding claim 4, Adachi et al (figs. 1-6, 9-11, sec. 0093-0095, 0096-0109) disclose the navigation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the shape-simplified road map data generating means performs a process of moving the coordinate values at a connection part between the guiding route and the road intersecting the guiding route.

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Regarding claim 5, Adachi et al (figs. 1-6, 9-11, sec. 0093-0095, 0096-0109) disclose the navigation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the shape-simplified road map data generating means performs a process of rotating a map forming object of the shape-simplified road map with respect to the departure place of the guiding route.

Regarding claim 6, Adachi et al (figs. 1-6, 9-11, sec. 0093-0095, 0096-0109) disclose the navigation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the notice part detecting means detects, with respect to the coordinate values forming the coordinate value string of the guiding route in the road map data, the coordinate values as the notice part when an angle made between a first line section, forming the guiding route, having a start point or an end point at the coordinate values and a second line section of the guiding route in the shape-simplified road map data, corresponding to the first section is equal to or greater than a predetermined value.

Regarding claim 7, Adachi et al (figs. 1-6, 9-11, sec. 0093-0095, 0096-0109) disclose the navigation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the guidance notice information generating means generates the guidance notice information for each of coordinate values detected as the notice part and a plurality of coordinate values following the coordinates out of the coordinate values forming the coordinate value string of the guiding route in the road map data on the basis of increase and decrease trends in an angle made between a first line section having a start point or an end point at the coordinate values and a second line section of the guiding route in the shape-simplified road map data, corresponding to the first line section.

Regarding claim 8, Adachi et al (figs. 1-6, 9-11, sec. 0093-0095, 0096-0109) disclose the route guiding method in which information of a guiding route is transmitted by a navigation

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apparatus to a navigation terminal for performing route guidance of a moving object, characterized by including:

a route searching step of searching, using map data stored in map data storing means, a guiding route between a departure place and a destination received from the navigation terminal; a shape-simplified road map data generating step of generating, using the map data, shape-simplified road map data which includes at least the guiding route and a road intersecting the guiding route and in which a road shape of the guiding route is simplified;

a notice part detecting step of detecting as a notice part a part of the guiding route having a difference greater than a predetermined quantity between a shape of the guiding route in the map data and the shape of the guiding route in the shape-simplified road map data;

a guidance notice information generating step of generating, on the basis of the difference in the notice part between the map data and the shape-simplified road map data, guidance notice information to be supplied to the navigation terminal when the moving object reaches the notice part in the route guidance; and

an information delivering step of transmitting delivery information including the shape-simplified road map data and the guidance notice information to the navigation terminal (sec. 0059-0067, 0093-0095, 0096-0109).

Although the prior art may not have recited the exact same sentences and terminologies as in the claim, it would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art that the drawings and information in the prior art are combinable to read on the claim limitations.

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Regarding claim 9, Adachi et al (figs. 1-6, 9-11, sec. 0093-0095, 0096-0109) disclose a route guiding method in which a navigation apparatus performs route guidance of a moving object, characterized by comprising:

- a setting step of receiving settings of a departure place and a destination;

- a route searching step of searching, using the map data stored in map data storing means, a guiding route between the departure place and the destination;

- a shape-simplified road map data generating step of generating, using the map data, shape-simplified road map data which includes at least the guiding route and a road intersecting the guiding route and in which a road shape of the guiding route is simplified;

- a notice part detecting step of detecting as a notice part a part of the guiding route having a difference greater than a predetermined quantity between a shape of the guiding route in the map data and the shape of the guiding route in the shape-simplified road map data; and

- a guidance notice information generating step of generating, on the basis of the difference at the notice part between the map data and the shape-simplified road map data, guidance notice information to be outputted when the moving object reaches the notice part in the route guidance (sec. 0059-0067, 0093-0095, 0096-0109).

Although the prior art may not have recited the exact same sentences and terminologies as in the claim, it would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art that the drawings and information in the prior art are combinable to read on the claim limitations.

Communication

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3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RONNIE MANCHO whose telephone number is (571)272-6984.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs: 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tran Khoi can be reached on 571-272-6919. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ronnie Mancho/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3664

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